

WASHINGTON – Congressman Jo Bonner voted for the Budget Control Act of 2011 which passed the U.S. House of Representatives Friday by a 218 to 210 margin. The plan which was introduced by House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, now heads to the U.S. Senate.

"As frustrating as it has been for the American people to watch, and as flawed as the process sometimes is, today's vote by the House once again shows that we are doing what we can to keep our country from defaulting while, at the same time, keeping the pressure on in Washington, D.C. to slowdown the runaway train of federal spending," Congressman Bonner said.

"Once again, the House continues to lead. After negotiations between Congress and the White House broke down, the House passed Cut, Cap and Balance – with both Democrat and Republican votes – yet it died in the Senate.

"While I prefer Cut, Cap and Balance, and while no one is pretending Speaker Boehner's Budget Control Act is perfect – trust me, it is not – we are at a critical hour. To stop now would only risk financial harm to our economy and allow the country to sink deeper in debt.

"The passage of Speaker Boehner's Budget Control Act will force the president to make spending cuts equal to the debt ceiling increase, will ensure Congress and the White House approve longer-term cuts in the coming years, and will require that Congress pass a balanced budget amendment to the U.S. Constitution in order for the president to receive a follow-up debt limit increase.

"At the end of the day, Republicans control only one-third of the government and we cannot force our will on either the Senate or the president. That said, the ball is now in their court to either accept this reasonable measure or allow our nation to risk default on our debt."

For Release: July 29, 2011